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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: ROLAND BURK ET AL.

Serial No.: 09/783,533

Group Art Unit: 3743

Filed: FEBRUARY 15, 2001

Examiner: Ciric, Ljiljana V.

Title: AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEM AND OPERATING METHOD
FOR A MOTOR VEHICLE WITH HEAT PUMP AND/OR
REHEAT OPERATING MODE

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RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 25, 2002, the following remarks are submitted.

First, Applicants hereby provisionally elect the first identified species of Figures 1 through 4, not including the variant depicted in Figure 9. It is submitted that Claims 1-4, 8-10, 12-14, 16, 17, and 19 read on the elected species. Furthermore, it is submitted that Claims 1-3, 8, 9, 12, 13, 16, 17, and 19 are generic to the species identified.

This election is made with traverse, it being submitted that the variation depicted in Figure 9 is a feature which was disclosed for use with either of the two different embodiments of Figures 1-4, and 5-8 respectively. Accordingly, it is submitted that dependent claims including this feature from Figure 9, should also be examined and allowed along with the respective parent claims.

respect to independent Claim 20, this is a broader formulation with this drying mode feature which is disclosed as part of each of the two embodiments Figures 1-4, and 5-8. Lastly, it is submitted that allowable generic claims are present, and therefore all claims dependent from these allowable generic claims should be considered and allowed in the present application, even if they are directed to different species of the same invention.

If there are any questions regarding this response or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any such fee or any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayment of fees to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket 027/49419).

Respectfully submitted,

April 25, 2002



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